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PREPARATIONS FOR THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN: ACTION FOR EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

First draft to serve as a working document for the elaboration of the Platform for Action

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The Commission on the Status of Women, at its thirty-sixth session, acting as preparatory body for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its thirty-seventh session a report containing a first draft to serve as a working document for the elaboration of the Platform for Action. In the report the orientation of the Platform is discussed and a structure proposed for consideration by the Commission.

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INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 36/8, 1/ the Commission on the Status of Women, acting as preparatory body for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its thirty-seventh session a report containing a first draft to serve as a working document for the elaboration of the Platform for Action. In its resolution 35/4, 2/ the Commission had decided to prepare a programme of action for consideration by the World Conference. In its resolution 36/8, it decided to call the document "the Platform for Action", requesting in paragraph 8 that the first draft should take as a basis all the guidelines contained in Commission resolution 35/4, the impact on the status of women of changes that have taken place in the international community, the importance of integrating gender perspectives into policy-making in all areas and at all levels, the need to give priority to the situation of rural women, in particular in developing countries, and differences in priorities among regions, based on a full input from the organizations of the United Nations system, as well as other regional organizations acting through their representatives to the Commission.

2. The present report, which is based on the results of informal interagency consultations, is submitted in accordance with the above and contains proposals regarding the structure of and approach to the Platform.

BASIC APPROACHES TO THE PLATFORM

3. The Fourth World Conference on Women and its preparatory processes should focus world attention on the situation of women and result in a renewal of political commitment. The purpose of the Platform for Action, as the final document to emerge from the Conference, is to accelerate implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 3/ in order that key aspects may be achieved by the year 2000. It is to delineate specific action to be taken by policy-makers at all levels, as well as by men and women at the grass roots, to rectify current inequalities. The Platform should set out clearly the steps necessary to achieve equality by the twenty-first century.

4. While the Platform will continue to focus on the themes of equality, development and peace, the overlaps between these themes have become so extensive that to treat them separately would entail unnecessary repetition. Since the main intention is to produce a manageable document, the Platform should be approached in a holistic fashion, highlighting the interrelationships between the three themes.

5. The Platform is to be concise and action-oriented and be written in a language that is simple and easily understandable. The types of action proposed should be those that the average woman could undertake or could realistically ask of her political leaders. Consideration must be given to the fact that the Platform should be readily translatable, not only into all the official languages of the United Nations but also into the various national, and perhaps local, languages. This will enhance its efficacy and promote its implementation on the broadest basis possible.

6. With these considerations in mind, it is proposed that the Platform should comprise six sections, as indicated in the outline (see annex), namely: a

visionary statement of purpose; a diagnosis of the current situation of the world's women; an analytic statement of the most significant obstacles to the advancement of women identified in the diagnosis; the key issues and basic needs, linking the status of women to global changes; specific action to be taken to reach obtainable goals in key areas; and a statement about implementation mechanisms.

7. The Commission is invited to agree on the structure of the Platform at its current session in order to allow sufficient time at ensuing sessions to determine the final content of the text of the Platform to the extent possible in advance of the Conference. As the Commission has already decided that the Platform should comprise a limited number of issues and provide concise guidelines, it would also be useful if the Commission could determine at an early stage a maximum length for the final document.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 4 (E/1992/24), chap I, sect. C.

2/ Ibid., 1991, Supplement No. 8 (E/1991/28), chap. I, sect C.

3/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Annex

DRAFT OUTLINE OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION

I. STATEMENT OF MISSION

1. The visionary statement of the underlying principles for the achievement of the goal of equality by the year 2000 is intended to be a strategic manifesto and reflect a political commitment to adopt measures that will accelerate implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women a/ with a view to achieving true equality. It should stress the importance of solidarity between women, as well as partnership between men and women and the equal sharing of power, so as to bring a new ethic into human relationships for the good of society and a better world. Women should be supported and recognized as actors as well as recipients in the development process and the enhanced efficiency and cost-effectiveness of power-sharing in the economic, political and social fields will be emphasized. Women's role in shaping a new development agenda and the linkages between women and other emerging trends, such as governance, democracy and accountability, should be identified.

II. WOMEN IN THE 1990s: A STATUS REPORT

2. A concise, integrated diagnosis of the status of women at the time of the Conference should be based on the analysis underlying the second review and appraisal of the implementation of the Strategies. The issue of equity between women and men should be linked to the implementation of international agreements on sustainable development as well as an identification of current disparities between the sexes. In this context, the findings of the expert group meetings on women and development and women in extreme poverty, held in November 1991 and November 1992 respectively, should be taken into account.

III. OBSTACLES TO FULL EQUALITY

3. An analysis of the current situation should determine what obstacles represent a persistent disadvantage to women everywhere and thus require immediate attention. As some factors will be seen to affect women in different ways depending on their situation, a common denominator should be sought to connect the inequalities and obstacles that are the lot of women all over the world.

IV. KEY ISSUES AND BASIC NEEDS OF WOMEN IN THE 1990s

4. In this section, the areas should be identified in which increased participation by women would facilitate their integration into all spheres of life; the basic necessities, such as health, education and employment, that would enable women to take advantage of all the opportunities available to them in a changing political, economic and social climate, should be clearly spelt out. There should be an in-built population component covering urbanization, ageing, migration and fertility control. The "empowerment" of women, the changing gender roles of men, and any other major priority issues that might emerge from the review and appraisal should be emphasized, as well as the nine points listed in paragraph 3 of Commission resolution 35/4, b/ namely:

(a) The strengthening of efforts at the national and international levels, taking into account the circumstances in each country, to increase awareness among men and women of women's rights under international conventions and national law;

(b) The implementation of special measures to increase the proportion of women involved in decision-making in the economic, social and political spheres;

(c) The strengthening of worldwide efforts to end illiteracy among women and girls by the year 2000;

(d) The establishment of specific programmes for improving the conditions of women and girls living in poverty, particularly those living in extreme poverty, by, inter alia, providing adequate training to develop their skills and capabilities;

(e) The establishment of specific programmes aimed at improving women's and girls' health by ensuring them access to adequate maternal health care, family planning and nutrition;

(f) The implementation of policies to prevent, control and reduce violence against women and girls in the family, the workplace and society;

(g) The establishment or strengthening of national institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women;

(h) The establishment of special programmes aimed at meeting the specific needs of refugee, displaced and migrant women and girls and those living in conflict areas;

(i) The elaboration of ways and means of using new and high technologies, as well as scientific research, to benefit women.

V. ACTION TOWARDS 2000

5. On the basis of the key and emerging issues and obstacles identified, goals should be established. Selected, realistic and quantifiable targets should be specified, including the development of indicators to measure the quality of life. Concise guidelines for the achievement of each of the goals should be provided. In cases where goals already exist, these could be revised or reinforced as appropriate and stress laid on their speedy implementation. It should also be quite clear to whom the recommendations are addressed.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION: KEEPING TRACK OF PROGRESS

6. A monitoring and implementation mechanism should be built into the document. An appropriate allocation of resources should be committed to the implementation of the Platform.

Notes

a/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

b/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 8 (E/1991/28), chap. I, sect. C.

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PREPARATIONS FOR THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN: ACTION FOR EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Outline and contents of the second review and appraisal on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The Commission on the Status of Women, by its resolution 36/8, requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its thirty-seventh session information on data that would be used for the second report on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and an outline of that report. The present report contains the information requested, including an outline and a set of statistics that should be considered for use in national reports as well as in the global report.

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INTRODUCTION

1. By its resolution 36/8 1/ on the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, the Commission on the Status of Women decided that the agenda for the Fourth World Conference on Women should include: (a) the second review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000; (b) the Platform for Action; (c) the main conclusions and recommendations of regional preparatory conferences; and (d) institutional arrangements for the implementation of the Platform for Action. The Commission requested the Secretary-General to submit to it, at its thirty-seventh session, a report containing: (a) information on data that would be used in the formulation of the second report on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies; and (b) an outline of the second report, in which special emphasis should be given to the recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Strategies, contained in the annex to Council resolution 1990/15, in particular those referring to the condition of women in developing countries.

2. In its resolution 45/129, the General Assembly urged Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to implement those recommendations. It also reaffirmed paragraph 2 of the recommendations and conclusions, on the improvement of the pace of implementation of the Strategies in the crucial last decade of the twentieth century. It stated that the costs to societies of failing to implement the strategies would be high in terms of slowed economic and social development, misuse of human resources and reduced progress for society as a whole and, for that reason, immediate steps should be taken to remove the most serious obstacles to the implementation of the Strategies.

3. The Economic and Social Council acknowledged the obstacles encountered in the preparation of the first review and appraisal, in particular the inadequate response to the questionnaire sent out to all Member States. By its resolution 1990/9 on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to base the second review and appraisal of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies on national reports and available analyses of statistical data in the United Nations system, as well as in other pertinent governmental and non-governmental organizations. As stated in the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, the preparatory process should be used to develop new and innovative approaches to statistics, to be ultimately reflected in the review and appraisal, which should compare women with men and show changes occurring over time (see E/CN.6/1992/3, para. 33).

4. In accordance with the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/22 on the establishment of a comprehensive reporting system to monitor, review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, the reports should be addressed to the three interrelated and mutually reinforcing objectives of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies: Equality, Development and Peace. Emphasis should be put on the key priority themes examined by the Commission on the Status of Women and new developments affecting the status of women should be taken into consideration.

5. In order to ensure continuity in the review and appraisal process, the outline of the second review and appraisal should be compatible with the first review and appraisal (Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/15, annex). The outline, which is presented in detail in annex I, has been arrived at after consultations within the United Nations system.

I. INFORMATION NEEDED FOR REVIEW AND APPRAISAL AT VARIOUS LEVELS

6. The national reports should serve as a basis for review and appraisal at the national level and this should be their primary purpose. They are also, however, expected to form part of the basis for the review and appraisal at the regional and international levels, in order to provide a realistic picture of the global situation in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies. The Commission on the Status of Women, in its resolution 36/8, 1/ emphasized the importance of national preparatory activities in focusing attention on the status and advancement of women, and of national machinery to assess the situation and mobilize national non-governmental organizations and individuals, with a view to improving national performance in the advancement of women.

A. Global level

7. Analysis at this level should draw on information collected and analysed at the international level. For this purpose, the data collected for the report on the World Social Situation and annual reports on the world economic situation will be used for the discussion on major trends in the world economic and social situation in relation to the status of women. The 1994 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development will be a major source, as will periodic analyses prepared by specialized bodies of the United Nations system. The report will also draw heavily on the statistics produced for the update of The World's Women, 1970-1990: Trends and Statistics, which will be completed in 1994.

8. Furthermore, any relevant findings deriving from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, the World Conference on Human Rights, to be held at Vienna in June 1993, and the World Conference on Population and Development, to be held at Cairo in 1994, will be incorporated in the review and appraisal. Since 1994 has been proclaimed International Year of the Family, this event will also be used as a source of information, as necessary.

B. Regional trends and development

9. The review and appraisal at the regional level will draw primarily on the results of the regional preparatory conferences leading up to the World Conference on Women as described in the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (E/CN.6/1992/3). The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) regional preparatory conference will be held in Indonesia in May 1994; the one for the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) will be held in Argentina in 1994; and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) regional conference will take place in Senegal in 1994. The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) regional conference will take place in October 1994; the venue is still to be decided. The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) is expected to take a decision on a regional meeting in 1993. Regional analyses are expected to be prepared in

advance of these meetings, and these can be used for preparing the global analysis.

C. National level

10. In resolution 36/8 B 1/ of the Commission on the Status of Women, on the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, it is recommended that Governments should establish national committees to coordinate the preparation of their reports. The Secretary-General has brought this resolution to the attention of all Member States by a note verbale of 31 August 1992, in order to ensure that the national contributions for the World Conference are duly prepared.

11. In order to integrate these reports into the preparatory process, Member States should send copies of their national reports both to the regional commissions and to the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Office at Vienna/Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs before the regional conferences take place, in order to include the results of the national analysis in the review and appraisal at the regional and global levels. These reports should be presented in one of the official United Nations languages. It is recommended that they follow an outline generally comparable with the one proposed for the global report. It is also suggested, however, that they focus, in their detailed analysis, on national priority areas. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1988/22, Member States are encouraged to make use of the reports prepared for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and other relevant international bodies in the preparations of the quinquennial review and appraisal reports, in order to minimize duplication of effort.

12. Each national report should include an introductory commentary, covering the basic strategies and programmes of action employed to advance each objective and a review and appraisal of their effectiveness. The national reports should include, under each of the three objectives, an account of measures taken to implement the basic strategies for international and regional cooperation set out in paragraphs 356-365 of the Forward-looking Strategies. 2/

13. The national reports should also include an account of the measures taken to meet relevant international standards, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180), the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX), the Convention against Discrimination in Education of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and various conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Non-governmental bodies should be invited to submit reports for the quinquennial review and appraisal to the national preparatory committee.

14. The preparation of national reports should present an opportunity for strengthening the process of monitoring the advancement of women through the collection, compilation and analysis of statistical indicators at the national level, focusing on changes in the status of women. A basic set of such indicators, covering the themes of the Forward-looking Strategies, is proposed in annex II. These indicators have been suggested by an examination of the statistics that are available internationally and presented in the World's Women 1970-1990: Trends and Statistics. 3/ In some cases, new indicators have been proposed and countries are encouraged to collect such data.

15. For the preparations of their reports, the regional commissions are requested to focus on two major issues:

(a) To measure changes in the status of women and any progress in implementing the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies since 1985, using two measures: (i) the progress of women as seen most recently in relation to the situation of women in 1985; and (ii) the progress of women in different areas in relation to the situation of men, between 1985 and the most recent date for which data are available;

(b) Regional and national policy implications deriving from the above analysis of the situation for women, including the main obstacles and necessary future action.

16. This gender analysis should be based on statistical indicators to provide a comparison of changes over the decade. The regional report should follow roughly the same outline as the first review and appraisal.

17. The national reports should follow a similar outline to that being used for the global report, in order to ensure coordination and full use of the data collected. The following outline is suggested for a typical national report:

OUTLINE OF THE NATIONAL REPORT

Introduction

Global or regional framework within which national changes are taking place (corresponding to part one in the global report), with particular emphasis on the international factors affecting the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies.

I. REVIEW AND APPRAISAL AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

The emphasis should be placed both on the changes that have taken place in each sector, as far as possible on the basis of disaggregated data by gender, and on the role of women in decision-making in each corresponding sector. The changes should be supported by statistical evidence; possible indicators for each major sector are given in annex II.

Besides reviewing changes in the major themes, Equality, Development and Peace, and the subthemes of Employment, Health and Education, the national reports should emphasize issues of particular interest to the country, as well as the national implementation of the recommendations on the priority themes adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women.

A. Equality

Besides reviewing changes in the implementation of international standards at the national level, and constitutional and legal equality, including legal illiteracy and equality in political participation, the review should focus on the issue of the passage from de jure to de facto equality. This section should conclude by identifying the major remaining obstacles in the area of equality.

B. Development

1. Employment

2. Health

3. Education

4. Changes in other areas of major national interest and in the priority themes

5. Remaining major obstacles.

C. Peace

In this section, besides reviewing the participation of women in peace activities and education for peace, special emphasis should be placed on the issues of violence against women and on women under specific conflict situations. The section should conclude by identifying the major remaining obstacles to peace.

D. Areas of special concern

This section should focus on the areas of special concern that are of national relevance.

E. National machinery for the advancement of women

This section should identify major trends in the institutional building capacity and in the programmes of national machinery. Particular emphasis should also be placed on the overall building of national capacity in the area of women and development and in implementing the Platform for Action to be adopted at the World Conference.

II. REVIEW AND APPRAISAL AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Technical cooperation and joint research (corresponding to part three of the outline for the global report, showing the recipient side of multilateral aid) and institutional coordination should be stressed.

18. In compiling their national reports, Governments are requested to focus on the issues that represent their national priorities, rather than attempting to treat all issues equally and to support the analysis with gender-disaggregated data showing the progress among women over a period of time, and also compared with men since the Nairobi Conference. Examples of indicators that could be used are given in annex II.

D. National machinery for the advancement of women

19. This section of the review and appraisal will be based on the revised version of the Directory of National Machinery for the Advancement of Women, which is prepared by the Division for the Advancement of Women as part of its regular biennial programme of activities, and on national reports. It will

also draw upon statements by representatives at the Commission on the Status of Women on the building of national capacity and upon the information provided in the national reports that have been submitted.

E. International level

20. The information catalogued under the Women's Information System (WIS) will be used to provide a picture of the outputs produced by the United Nations system. At present, this represents over 3,700 references. A statistical analysis of these entries can provide a picture of the geographical coverage and subject matter dealt with by the United Nations system and some indication of the areas on which it is concentrating.

21. Direct input is also expected from the United Nations system on the issues the organizations consider will be particularly important over the next few years in order to achieve the goals of the Strategies.

22. The situation of women in the United Nations system and secretariat, technical cooperation and institutional coordination will also be included.

II. PROPOSED TIMETABLE

23. In his note verbale of 31 August 1992 (see paragraph 10 above), the Secretary-General requested Governments to appoint a national coordinator and set up a national task force for the preparation of the national reports. Governments were asked to make their national reports available to the Division for the Advancement of Women and to their regional commissions in one of the United Nations official languages, at least six months before the respective regional conferences.

24. In order for countries, particularly the least developed ones, to be able to prepare their national reports and participation in the regional and global conferences under favourable conditions, international agencies and intergovernmental organizations are encouraged to provide support to the national preparatory committees established for the Conference.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 4 (E/1992/24), chap. I, sect. C.

2/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

3/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XVII.3).

Annex I

OUTLINE OF THE GLOBAL REPORT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

The outline of the second global review and appraisal should be similar to that of the first report, with a few minor modifications:

Executive summary

A. Equality

B. Development

C. Peace

D. Areas of special concern

E. Means of action

Introduction

Part one

GLOBAL AND REGIONAL FACTORS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES

I. GLOBAL TRENDS AFFECTING PROGRESS

A. World social and economic situation

B. Population and family

C. Human Rights

II. REGIONAL TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS

A. Africa

B. Asia and the Pacific

C. Europe

D. Latin America and the Caribbean

E. Western Asia

Part two

REVIEW AND APPRAISAL AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

[This part would follow the same approach as the one described at the national level for the themes and subthemes, including the Commission's priority themes. The emphasis would be on identification of the main areas of common concern.]

Part three

REVIEW AND APPRAISAL AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

I. Overview of the activities of the United Nations system

II. Technical cooperation and research

III. Institutional coordination

IV Women in the United Nations system

Annex II

STATISTICAL INDICATORS FOR THE REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

1. The use of statistical indicators was decided upon by the Commission in order to promote a more rigorous review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women by encouraging each country to attempt to measure as far as possible the changes that were occurring.

2. Since the coverage of national reports may vary according to national concerns and priorities, it is not possible to provide a full set of indicators. The present annex will offer criteria for the establishment of indicators and some examples.

Criteria for establishing indicators

3. Many indicators can be used to measure changes in the status of women. For the Fourth World Conference on Women, it is proposed that the indicators should focus on measuring two aspects of change in the situation and status of women:

(a) Changes that have taken place between 1985 to the most recent date for which statistics are available on the situation of women in selected important sectors or themes. This would be a measure of absolute change. It would mean, for example, comparing the enrolment of girls in secondary education in 1985 and 1993 in order to measure any increase in the proportion of girls enrolled in secondary education;

(b) Changes that have occurred since 1985 in the situation of women compared with that of men in a given sector. This would be considered a status measure. Using the previous example, the indicator would then become the ratio between the enrolment of boys and of girls at the same two points of time. By comparing the two ratios, it will be possible to measure whether the gap between the enrolment of boys and girls has diminished or not and, if so, by what percentage.

4. In practice, since much of the data is derived from decennial censuses or related surveys, it might be necessary to compare the data for 1980 with that for 1990 in order to have comparable sets of data on the one hand and a sufficient time difference to note a change on the other.

5. For data from different types of sources, for example, annual statistics from the ministry of health or of education, it would be useful to then select the same years as for the other sets of data and also include 1985 and the most recent year available.

6. The following considerations should be taken into account when selecting indicators:

(a) Availability of data at two points of time;

(b) Simplicity of the indicator: it should be possible for the non-specialist to interpret it straight away;

(c) Policy and programme relevance of the indicator; in other words, the indicator should be an instrument for decision-making or evaluation;

(d) The indicator should focus on specific age-groups or populations in order to be sensitive to change. For example, a general literacy rate is calculated for the population over 15 years of age and includes older generations; therefore, in addition to the difficulties that can arise from changes in age structure, it takes a longtime for the the impact of education measures on such a vast population to become apparent and in such a case it is preferable just to focus on the group 15-19 years of age. Enrolment rates are also sensitive to policies and programmes.

7. Under the theme "Equality", indicators could focus on the de facto inequality that remains. For example, one can construct indicators on new registrations, by sex, of land holdings or housing at two points of time. Such indicators would show whether women have access to the tools of production or to certain forms of security. It is also important to analyse whether women could be discriminated against in the decision-making processes or in access to forms of redress; in such cases, one can build indicators based on the changes in the numbers of female candidates for election and, of females holding senior government posts and posts in the judicial system.

8. Under the theme "Development", it is recommended that the World's Women, 1970-1990: Trends and Statistics a/ be consulted, since it provides many examples for the subthemes "Health", "Education" and "Employment". Besides the indicators already mentioned, data and indicators could be provided on the obstacles to women sharing production equally with men arising from women's quasi monopoly of the reproductive functions, defined in a broad sense to include caring roles and domestic work. Data on the use of time budgets and on support services for women in these roles, such as day-care centres, and household amenities, such as clean water or fuel on tap, would make it possible to provide a more complete picture of factors that have a major impact on the status of women and on their potential for improvement.

9. Under the theme "Peace", the issue of violence should receive particular attention. Data on reported forms of violence obtained from various sources, such as the police or hospitals, would be important. Data on the response to violence, such as court cases on rape or wife-battering, would be useful as well as on programmes to establish refuges. In view of the large number of areas where civil strife is prevalent, an attempt must be made to quantify the plight of the women and children in those areas: data on refugees and displaced persons should be provided where relevant and available. Data on the response to violence in all its forms can also be provided through information on the participation of women in decision-making in the relevant areas. This should cover both the top posts in government, but also the top ranks of the civil service.

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a/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XVII.3.

10. On this basis, suggested national indicators for the review and appraisal are tabulated below:

Indicators	Relevance	Availability
	EQUALITY	
	1. Women and political life	
Candidatures for parliamentary elections Number of women and men, 1987 and 1992	To test legal and attitudinal changes	1987 and 1992: national level
Parliamentary seats occupied Number of women and men, 1987 and 1992	To test legal and attitudinal changes Political decision-making	1987: Interparliamentary Union 1992: national level
Local staff representative bodies (State, regions and municipalities) First level Number of women and men, 1987 and 1992	To test legal and attitudinal changes Political decision-making	1987 and 1992: national level
	2. Women and public sector	
Top decision-making levels of government First four levels Number of women and men, 1980, 1987 and 1992	Political and economic decision-making	1980: national level 1987: worldwide government directory 1992: national level
Employment in public administration, by ministry Number of women and men, 1980 and 1992	Public instrument To test public action Economic and political decision-making	1980 and 1992: national level
Management of public enterprises Number of women and men, 1980 and 1992	Public instrument To test public action Economic and political decision-making	1980 and 1992: national level
	3. Judicial system	
Professional staff of ministries of justice Number of women and men, 1980 and 1992	Legal rights	1980 and 1992: national level

Indicators	Relevance	Availability
Justice occupations (prosecutors, judges attorneys, lawyers) Number of women and men, 1980 and 1992	Legal rights	1980: United Nations survey 1992: national level
4. Access to resources		
Credit in public banks Percentage of women and men by term (long or short) and sector of activity, 1980, 1985 and 1992	Legal rights Economic decision-making	1980, 1985, 1992: national level
Land-ownership Percentage of women and men Average area, by sex, 1980 and 1992	Legal rights Economic decision-making Rural women	1980 and 1992: national level
House-ownership Percentage of women and men, 1980 and 1992	Legal rights Economic decision-making	1980 and 1992: national level
Business: employers and own-account workers Percentage of women and men, 1980 and 1990	Legal rights Economic decision-making	1980 and 1990: national level
Access to public social security Number of women and men, by age and marital status, 1980, 1985 and 1992	Ageing women Rural women Social participation to test legal changes	1980, 1985, 1992: national level
Wage differential Percentage of women and men, most recent year	To test legal changes	1983-1987: available for 14 developed countries, 4 African countries and 6 Asian countries 1990-1992: coverage, definition and methods of compiling wage statistics differ from one country to another
Rights to maternity leave Do they exist? If so, for how many weeks? Are they general or not? 1980-1985, 1992	To test legal changes Means of economic decision-making and employment	1980, 1985, 1992: national level

Indicators	Relevance	Availability
	DEVELOPMENT	
	A. Employment	
	1. Time-use	
Time-use in selected activities Economic activities, unpaid housework, personal care, free time Number of hours per week, by sex, 1985 and most recent year	Monitoring the status of women Sharing of work and family responsibilities Women's multiple burden	Developed countries: since 1985, studies have been carried out by national statistical services Developing countries: case studies
Distribution of unpaid domestic work Care-taking, preparing meals, shopping, other Number of hours per week, by sex, 1985 and most recent year	Monitoring the status of women Sharing of work and family responsibilities Women's multiple burden	Developed countries: since 1985, studies have been carried out by national statistical services Developing countries: case studies
	2. Economic activity	
Population economically active (over 15 years) Number of women and men, by age and by marital status, 1980 and 1990	Legal rights Attitudinal changes Labour market changes	1980 and 1990: national census
Economic participation rate (over 15 years) Percentage of women and men, by age and by marital status, 1980 and 1990	Legal rights Attitudinal changes Labour market changes	1980 and 1990: national census
Average annual growth of population economically active Rate for women and men, by age, 1980 and 1990	Legal changes Attitudinal changes Labour market changes	1980 and 1990: national census
Labour force, by occupational groups Percentage of women and men, 1980 and 1990	Job segregation	1980 and 1990: national census or national survey International Labour Organisation (ILO) classification International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO)

Indicators	Relevance	Availability
Labour force, by status Number of women and men, 1980 and 1990	Economic decision-making	1980 and 1990: national census ILO classification
Labour force, by sector of activity Number of women and men, 1980 and 1990	Segregation Impact of the structural changes	1980 and 1990: national census ILO classification
Characteristics of employment Permanent, stationary, part-time worker Percentage of women and men, 1980 and 1990	Impact of economic crisis Impact of gender roles	1980 and 1990: national census
Absence from work Frequency of reasons given by women and men, most recent year	Reproductive responsibilities	National or sectoral survey
Unemployment Percentage of women and men, 1980 and 1990	Impact of the economic crisis Impact of the structural adjustment	1980 and 1990: national census
3. Support services for women		
Children's day care Percentage of children attending, 1980, 1985 and 1990	Public policies Legal changes	1980, 1985, 1990: national census
Clean water Percentage of population without safe water (urban/rural), 1980 and 1990	Public policies Rural women	National census
Agricultural extension Number of women and men, 1980, 1985, 1990	Rural women Job segregation	National census or survey
4. Export processing zones		
Number of women and men workers, 1980, 1990	Impact of the structural adjustment	National survey
B. Health		
1. Mortality rates		
Maternal mortality per 100,000 births, by age, 1980, 1985, 1990	Public instrument Effect of the crisis De facto situation of women and girls	1980, 1985, 1990: national survey World Health Organization (WHO) method

Indicators	Relevance	Availability
Specific causes of death, major causes For women and men, 1980, 1985, 1990	Public instrument Effect of the crisis De facto situation of women and girls	1980, 1985, 1990: WHO method
Child mortality per 1,000 aged 1-4 years Number of girls and boys, 1980, 1985 and 1990	Public instrument Effect of the crisis De facto situation of women and girls	1980, 1985, 1990: national survey United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) method
	2. Fertility	
Number of women using contraception, 1983, 1990	Family planning	1983: population studies (United Nations) 1990: national census or survey
Number of men using contraception: 1983, 1990	Family planning	1983: population studies (United Nations) 1990: national census or survey
	3. Nutrition	
Prevalence of Anaemia Percentage of women 15-49 years and percentage of pregnant women, 1980, 1985, 1990	Effect of the crisis Status of women Public policies	1980, 1985: WHO 1990: national census or survey
Malnutrition in the under-fives Percentage of girls and boys, 1980, 1985, 1990	Effect of the crisis Status of women and girls Public policies	1980, 1985, 1990: national census or survey
	4. Immunization	
Sex-specific immunization rate Percentage of girls and boys, by age, 1980, 1985, 1990	Effect of the crisis Status of girls Public instrument	1980, 1985, 1990: national census or survey
	5. Services	
Maternal and child health services Number of centres in urban and rural areas, 1980, 1990	Public instrument Effect of the crisis	1980, 1990: national survey
Trained attendant at birth Percentage of births, 1980, 1985, 1990	Public instrument Effect of the crisis	1980, 1985, 1990: national survey

Indicators	Relevance	Availability
	C. Education	
	1. Illiteracy	
Illiterates Number of women and men illiterates, global and by age, 15-24 years, 25-34 years, 35-44 years, over 45 years, 1980 and 1990	Public instrument Status of women	1980, 1990: national
	2. School enrolment	
Enrolment Number of girls and boys in first level, second level and third level, 1980, 1985, 1990	Public instrument Legal rights Status of women	1980, 1985, 1990: national
Rate of school drop-outs Percentage for girls and boys, by level, 1980, 1985, 1990	Impact of the economic crisis Patterns of marriage Status of women	1980, 1985, 1990: national
Vocational training Number of centers and students, by sex and by field of study, 1980, 1985, 1990	Specialized training for short period Rapid income-generation	1980, 1985, 1990: national survey
	3. Advanced studies and training	
Enrolment in third level Percentage of girls and boys, by field of study, 1980, 1985, 1990	Political and economic decision-making Empowerment Attitudinal changes Job segregation Effectiveness	1980, 1985, 1990: national survey
Graduation from third level Number of girls and boys graduated, by field of study, 1980, 1985, 1990	Attitudinal changes Status of women	1980, 1985, 1990: national survey
Post-graduate enrolment Number of girls and boys, by field of study, 1980, 1985, 1990	Attitudinal changes Job segregation	1980, 1985, 1990: national survey

Indicators	Relevance	Availability
	4. Resources for education	
Teachers Number of women and men, by level, 1980, 1985, 1990	Job segregation Opportunities Public policy instrument	1980, 1985, 1990: national survey
Training Percentage of fellowships and scholarships for women and men, 1980, 1985, 1990	Opportunities Public policy instrument	1980, 1985, 1990: national survey
	5. Global impact	
Educational level of the labour force Percentage of women and men, by level of education and by field of study, 1980, 1990	Impact on the labour market	1980, 1990: national census or survey
	PEACE	
	1. Peace activities	
Top decision-making in ministries of defence (first four levels) Number of women and men, 1987, 1992	Peacemaking	1987: Division for the Advancement of Women 1992: national level
Women in the military forces Percentage of total forces, 1980, 1992	Peace-keeping	1987: Division for the Advancement of Women 1992: national level
Top positions in ministry of external relations (first four levels) Number of women and men, 1987, 1992	Peace-keeping Peacemaking	1987: Division for the Advancement of Women 1992: national level
Women in diplomatic service Number of women and men, 1980, 1985, 1990	Peace-keeping Peacemaking	1980, 1985, 1990: national level
University enrolment in international relations, Diplomacy, political science, public administration Number of women and men, by field of study, 1980, 1985, 1990	Inputs for peace-keeping and peace-making	1980, 1985, 1990: national level

Indicators	Relevance	Availability
2. Education for peace		
Educational programme centre, institute or university for peace, public training and information Number of women and men, 1980, 1985, 1990	Peace programmes Public instruments	1980, 1985, 1990: national level
3. Violence against women		
Incidence and type of violence reported Domestic violence Homicide in the family Sexual assault and rape Sexual harassment Number of cases reported, 1980s and 1992	New themes in the field of legal rights Public action	1980s: Division for the Advancement of Women 1992: national level
Protective measures taken to assist abused women Police, shelters, non-governmental organizations, legal aid, financial assistance, housing assistance, 1988 and 1992	Legal rights Public action	1988: Division for the Advancement of Women 1992: national level
SPECIFIC SITUATIONS		
1. Refugees		
Number of women and men, 1980 and 1992		
2. Displaced persons		
Number of women and men, 1980 and 1992		
3. Prisoners		
Number of women and men, 1980 and 1992		
4. Women heads of household		
Percentage of total households, 1980 and 1990		

Indicators	Relevance	Availability
5. Women in absolute poverty		
Number and percentage of women in absolute poverty (line of absolute poverty = country-specific poverty line), 1980 and 1990		
6. International migration		
Number of women and men by source and destination (United States of America, Europe, Middle East and Japan), 1980 and 1992		